

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Medical Assistance**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the authority of M.G.L. c. 6A, section 16, and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, the Division of Medical Assistance (the Division) will hold a remote public hearing will be held on February 10, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. relative to the adoption of amendments to:

130 CMR 422.000: Personal Care Attendant Services

The proposed amendments to 130 CMR 422.000 update certain requirements of the MassHealth personal care attendant (PCA) program. Specifically, the proposed amendments include provisions to:

- Enhance flexibility of utilization requirements by enabling Consumers to schedule PCA hours on a weekly basis; and
- Enable the flexibility for Personal Care Management (PCM) agencies to use licensed practical nurses for initial evaluations.

The proposed revisions will not change or affect the total amount of hours of personal care services a member is authorized to receive. The proposed amendments promote the effective operation of the MassHealth PCA program. There is no fiscal impact related to these proposed amendments.

The proposed regulation is planned to go into effect no sooner than August 1, 2023. There is no fiscal impact on cities and towns.

To register to testify at the hearing and to get instructions on how to join the hearing online, go to www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings. To join the hearing by phone, call (646) 558-8656 and enter meeting ID 935 397 8200# when prompted.

You may also submit written testimony instead of, or in addition to, live testimony. To submit written testimony, please email your testimony to masshealthpublicnotice@mass.gov as an attached Word or PDF document or as text within the body of the email with the name of the regulation in the subject line. All written testimony must include the sender's full name, mailing address, and organization or affiliation, if any. Individuals who are unable to submit testimony by email should mail written testimony to EOHHS, c/o D. Briggs, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171. Written testimony will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. on February 10, 2023. The Division of Medical Assistance (the Division) specifically invites comments as to how the amendments may affect beneficiary access to care.

To review the current draft of the proposed actions, go to www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings or request a copy in writing from MassHealth Publications, 100 Hancock Street, 6th Floor, Quincy, MA 02171.

Special accommodation requests may be directed to the Disability Accommodations Ombudsman by email at ADAAccommodations@mass.gov or by phone at (617) 847-3468 (TTY: (617) 847-3788 for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, or speech disabled). Please allow two weeks to schedule sign language interpreters.

The Division may adopt a revised version of the proposed actions taking into account relevant comments and any other practical alternatives that come to its attention.

In case of inclement weather or other emergency, hearing cancellation announcements will be posted on the MassHealth website at www.mass.gov/service-details/masshealth-public-hearings.

January 11, 2023